

## Letter of Apology

Dear Contemporary Art Gallery,

I am writing this letter to apologize for the apparent reduced form of this project as compared to my previous work:

1. First of all instead of producing a stack of hundreds of prop newspapers and having them available for people to take away, I found one in the back of a prop house in a cardboard box. (See page 33)
2. I had promised to actually blow out the east gallery windows, but due to time constraints, budgetary concerns, crew expenses (Fire engine \$110/hour, Firefighter \$65/hour, Officer \$80/hour) and permits (Fees for a hydrant permit: \$160.50) I was forced to have the explosion digitally created from a still photograph at CVFX and although they did a great job in creating the effect they used blue smoke instead of the green smoke that I had asked for. (Also I had asked to blow only one of the windows out, and they blew all of them out.)
3. I had also wanted the *Trailer* to be full of props, sets and research material which referred to Charles Dickens (hence the name *The Blacking Factory*) but was unable to complete this part of the project due to a couple of factors which I can not go into here because they are philosophical and personal.
4. I was also going to hire a crew to come in and age the exterior of the gallery using Soy Sauce (an Industry standard) but I was unable to get permission to do this from the Strata of the building.
5. There was some talk of having 10,000 children march through the gallery in a single line but this was deemed not feasible.
6. I had also wanted to produce the musical *Oliver* using the staff of the Contemporary Art Gallery as the main characters but the time commitment for this was unreasonable and the willingness of the staff was an issue.

I also wanted to apologize to the staff if I seemed stiff or detached during the installation. It was only a way to protect myself emotionally and psychologically as the production of this piece was very time consuming and we ran into a lot of technical problems in trying to make the *Trailer* look real.

I hope that we will have the opportunity of working together again in the future.

Sincerely,  
GEOFFREY FARMER